United Nations A/HRC/30/4

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 July 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 6
Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Liberia

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

GE.15-11802(E)

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-second session from 4 to 15 May 2015. The review of Liberia was held at the 2nd meeting, on 4 May 2015. The delegation of Liberia was headed by the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Julia M. Duncan-Cassell. At its 10th meeting, held on 8 May 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Liberia.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Liberia: Gabon, the Russian Federation and Viet Nam.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Liberia:

(a) A national report (A/HRC/WG.6/22/LBR/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/LBR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR (A/HRC/WG.6/22/LBR/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Liberia through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the Working Group.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Liberia welcomed the opportunity to interact with other member States and to discuss how Liberia may continue to move forward in the implementation of human rights standards. It added that Liberia found this dialogue extremely helpful in identifying key areas for the protection and promotion of human rights in the country.

6. The delegation stated that Liberia had made a number of notable achievements since its first universal periodic review, four years earlier. In 2011, the country had held its second peaceful presidential and legislative elections since the end of the civil war in 2003.

7. The delegation noted that the Government had developed a national security strategy in light of the anticipated drawdown of the United Nations Mission in Liberia. Enhancing human rights compliance within the security sector was an integral part of that strategy. Ensuring access to justice was also a key component, provided for through the progressive establishment of regional hubs for justice and security, which would enhance service delivery, particularly outside Monrovia, the capital city.

8. The delegation mentioned that Liberia had also implemented a number of policies to strengthen the rule of law and foster the protection of human rights. These included the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation, which contained recommendations made by the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission; the Agenda for Transformation, which prioritized the development of the justice sector and addressed cross-cutting issues impacting on human rights and vulnerable groups; and the

National Human Rights Action Plan, which provided for the implementation of the country's regional and international human rights obligations and of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review.

9. With regard to the ratification of human rights instruments, the delegation noted that in 2012 Liberia had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in 2014 it had ratified the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights, the Kampala Convention and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

10. The delegation stated that Liberia was taking steps to address its backlog in treaty reporting, and was currently in good standing with regard to reports due under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It added that the common core document was in the process of finalization. The Government had also developed a national strategy on meeting treaty obligations, including treaty reporting, to address the matter of other outstanding reports. Moreover, the delegation emphasized that the process of issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council had begun.

11. The delegation explained that the independent national human rights institution had trained a number of human rights monitors, and had begun implementation of the Palava Hut Programme, a critical initiative in the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation.

12. However, the delegation recognized that many challenges lay ahead in the implementation of human rights. As a fragile society, Liberia faced additional challenges as it strived to meet the needs of its citizens. Most recently, the outbreak of Ebola had posed the most serious threat to national stability since the end of the 14-year civil war. The delegation noted that the impacts of Ebola had been widespread, hitting the economy and the health-care infrastructure particularly hard. It added that Liberia was only a few days away from being declared Ebola-free, and was cautiously optimistic that the worst had passed.

13. The delegation stated that, as Liberia was beginning to emerge from one of its greatest crises in recent memory, it looked forward to engaging with renewed vigour in the process of enhancing human rights protection. It concluded by saying that Liberia looked forward to the continued support of the international community as it strived to implement its human rights obligations.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

14. During the interactive dialogue, 76 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue can be found in section II of the present report.

15. Zimbabwe commended Liberia on the public awareness and educational campaigns carried out to improve women's access to justice. It noted that Liberia had established human rights units within the armed forces and the national police to integrate human rights education and awareness into the security sector. Zimbabwe made recommendations.

16. Algeria welcomed the institutional and normative reforms undertaken by Liberia, such as the overall development strategy, the strategy of consolidation of peace and reconciliation, the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and the creation of a unit to tackle sexual and gender-based violence. Algeria made recommendations.

17. Angola commended Liberia on the legislative policy measures taken since its last review, particularly regarding the protection of persons with disabilities, the protection of

the rights of the child and the fight against human trafficking. It also welcomed the launching of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation and the successful developments in the justice system. Angola made recommendations.

18. Argentina paid tribute to the efforts made to improve living standards, which had been worsened by the Ebola crisis. It was interested in the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, and particularly in the implementation of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation. Argentina made recommendations.

19. Australia commended Liberia on its transition from civil war to peace and on its successful elections held in 2011. It remained concerned that despite the country's accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, its Constitution had not abolished the practice. Australia also remained concerned by reports of sexual and gender-based violence against women and children. It made recommendations.

20. Benin congratulated Liberia on the efforts that it had made to ratify several human rights instruments. It reiterated its solidarity with the Liberian authorities for their efforts to overcome the health crisis caused by the Ebola epidemic. Benin made recommendations.

21. Botswana appreciated the adoption of the Children's Law and the process of harmonizing domestic legislation with international obligations. However, it remained concerned by the high level of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as by reports of high rates of maternal and infant mortality, particularly in rural areas. Botswana made recommendations.

22. Brazil congratulated Liberia on holding its second peaceful presidential and legislative elections since 2003. It commended Liberia on its fight against Ebola and reiterated its support in that endeavour. Brazil made recommendations.

23. Burkina Faso welcomed the measures taken by Liberia since the first review. It deplored the persistence of female genital mutilations and encouraged Liberia to take energetic measures to put an end to them.

24. Canada commended Liberia on its fight against Ebola. It urged Liberia to continue its efforts to promote equality between men and women, and its fight against violence against women and girls, particularly female genital mutilation. Canada made recommendations.

25. Chad stated that Liberia had made significant progress since its first review, but that unfortunately, difficulties due to the Ebola epidemic had curbed that progress. Chad congratulated Liberia on its establishment of institutions in the field of human rights and on its ratification of international and regional human rights instruments. Chad made recommendations.

26. China was concerned about the serious human rights and humanitarian impact caused by the outbreak of Ebola and commended Liberia on the efforts that it had made in that context. It called upon the international community to provide Liberia with constructive assistance. China made recommendations.

27. Colombia welcomed the commitment by Liberia to the human rights sector and the efforts made to implement recommendations of the first review. It welcomed the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan. Colombia made recommendations.

28. The Congo appreciated Liberia's commitment to putting recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission into practice by making the National Human Rights

Commission truly independent and improving access to justice throughout the country. The Congo made recommendations.

29. Costa Rica congratulated Liberia on the implementation of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation for 2012–2030 and on the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan. It was concerned at the allegations of arbitrary detention of human rights defenders. Costa Rica made recommendations.

30. Côte d'Ivoire thanked Liberia for its report, which summarized not only measures taken to follow up on recommendations accepted during the first review but also challenges connected to their effective implementation. Côte d'Ivoire noted the progress under way in various areas and recognized challenges that Liberia still had to face. Côte d'Ivoire made recommendations.

31. Cuba noted that 53 Cuban health-care volunteers had been among the first to respond to the call by the United Nations to tackle the Ebola epidemic. Cuba called upon the international community to provide Liberia with financial assistance for the strengthening of its health-care infrastructure. Cuba made recommendations.

32. The Czech Republic made recommendations.

33. The Democratic Republic of the Congo commended Liberia for the efforts to fulfil its commitments despite the serious challenges that it had had to face. It mentioned a number of achievements that Liberia had made since its first review in 2010, as well as a considerable number of obstacles that the country was yet to overcome. The Democratic Republic of the Congo made a recommendation.

34. Djibouti commended Liberia on the methodology crafted for implementing the recommendations from the first cycle. Djibouti called on the international community to support Liberia's efforts to mitigate the negative impact of Ebola on its development and to help the country monitor the implications of Ebola for human rights. Djibouti made a recommendation.

35. Egypt welcomed the launching of the long-term comprehensive strategy for development, the National Human Rights Action Plan of 2013, and the enactment of the Children's Law in 2012. It encouraged Liberia to pursue its policies aimed at combating gender-based violence and violence against street children. Egypt made recommendations.

36. Equatorial Guinea stressed that for over 10 years, a climate of reconciliation and consolidation of peace had been evident. Despite the recent health crisis due to the Ebola epidemic, Liberia had taken a number of measures that had shown its attachment to the promotion and protection of human rights. Equatorial Guinea made recommendations.

37. Estonia encouraged Liberia to continue its efforts to become a party to all the main international human rights instruments. Estonia urged Liberia to enforce domestic laws that protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation and to investigate all such cases effectively. Estonia made recommendations.

38. Morocco endorsed the efforts that Liberia had made towards bringing about stability. It welcomed the "Liberia Rising 2030" strategy for reconciliation and peace, the establishment of human rights institutions, the five-year plan to combat trafficking in persons, the National Human Rights Action Plan and the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation. Morocco made recommendations.

39. Finland noted Liberia's development with regard to maintaining peace and stability. It raised concerns about access to justice. It took positive note of Liberia's initiatives to address violence against women and encouraged Liberia to end violence against women. Finland made recommendations.

40. France welcomed the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan and the efforts to ensure freedom to hold peaceful demonstrations. It enquired about the measures that Liberia envisaged for remedying the consequences of the Ebola epidemic on human rights. France made recommendations.

41. Gabon welcomed the progress that Liberia had made in strengthening the rule of law and its efforts to guarantee civil, political, social and cultural rights, which had included significant legal and administrative reform and the establishment of human rights institutions. Gabon urged Liberia to intensify its efforts to promote and protect human rights.

42. Germany welcomed Liberia's efforts to improve the human rights situation, particularly via the establishment of human rights institutions, the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation, the National Human Rights Action Plan and the Freedom of Information Act. Germany commended Liberia on its fight against Ebola. Germany made recommendations.

43. Ghana applauded Liberia for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It welcomed the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and called on the international community to support Liberia to ensure that the Commission operated at full capacity. Ghana made recommendations.

44. Indonesia noted that Liberia had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and that ratification of other international human rights instruments was under way. It commended the legislative measures for protecting and promoting the rights of the child. Indonesia made recommendations.

45. Iraq appreciated the implementation of the 2012 long-term, comprehensive strategy for development. It appreciated the building of national reconciliation and the launching in 2013 of the National Human Rights Action Plan. It welcomed the intention to issue a standing invitation to the special procedures to visit Liberia. Iraq made recommendations.

46. Ireland commended the efforts that Liberia had made in tackling the Ebola virus. It expressed concern regarding prolonged pretrial detention and poor detention conditions, sexual and gender-based violence, female genital mutilation, and intimidation and violence on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Ireland made recommendations.

47. Italy commended Liberia on its response to the Ebola outbreak and on its progress in promoting and protecting human rights. Italy welcomed the de facto moratorium on the death penalty, and the position taken on harmful traditional practices and the involvement of traditional leaders in this. Italy made recommendations.

48. Japan encouraged Liberia to ensure the domestic implementation of international human rights instruments and to report to treaty bodies. It was concerned at corruption in law enforcement and at trial delays. It expected the ongoing debate on freedom of the press to continue in a democratic manner. Japan made recommendations.

49. Kenya noted the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation and the establishment of human rights institutions. It urged Liberia to implement the provisions of international and regional conventions and welcomed the harmonization of legislation on the rights of the child. Kenya made a recommendation.

50. Latvia was concerned about the reportedly high number of rape cases, particularly against young victims, and about gender-based violence. It conveyed its sympathies to the Government and people of Liberia with regard to the Ebola epidemic. Latvia made recommendations.

51. Libya appreciated the progress that Liberia had made in implementing the recommendations from the first cycle and particularly in amending its national legislation

to bring it into line with its international obligations. Libya also appreciated the building of national reconciliation and the launching in 2013 of the National Human Rights Action Plan. Libya made a recommendation.

52. Madagascar welcomed the implementation of a long-term, wide-ranging development strategy and the adoption of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation. It recognized the efforts to strengthen institutions and improve laws and the progress made in the areas of socioeconomic and cultural rights. It encouraged Liberia to meet its human rights commitments. Madagascar made recommendations.

53. Mali paid tribute to Liberia's commitment to the universal periodic review process. It noted Liberia's progress, which had included the consolidation of democratic procedures, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the National Plan of Action for Human Rights. Mali made a recommendation.

54. The delegation of Liberia explained that a larger delegation, headed by the Minister of Justice, was to have come to the present session of the Working Group, but because of the circumstances that Liberia faced in terms of flight and visa arrangements, several delegates were unable to be present. Nevertheless, the delegation stated that the recommendations and all of the concerns from Member States would be taken into consideration.

55. The delegation also said that the Government was continuing to work to ensure that laws were formulated to address gender-based violence and harmful practices against women. It added that a law making rape a non-bailable crime had been enacted and that a special court had been established for trials relating to rape and crimes of sexual and gender-based violence. Notwithstanding, despite all the efforts, violence against women and girls continued to increase in the country at an unexpected rate.

56. Mentioning that Liberia was going through a constitutional review process, the delegation expressed the hope that some of the recommendations made by the other countries' delegations could be addressed during the process of reviewing the Constitution. The delegation added that women should have equal access to economic and social empowerment, employment and education, that the Constitution should guarantee the inheritance rights of all women, and that the law should protect women from all forms of violence, including female genital mutilation. The delegation reiterated that discriminatory laws would be reviewed in the ongoing constitutional process.

57. Regarding the reform of the justice system, the delegation stated that Liberia had made progress and was committed to enhancing the system and strengthening access to justice, particularly via the establishment of the regional hubs for justice and security. As mentioned earlier, the delegation stated that the standing invitation to the special procedures was being prepared and should be issued very soon.

58. With regard to Ebola, the delegation said that the Government had developed an economic stabilization and recovery plan that addressed all the relevant issues, in particular the health-care infrastructure, education, and social protection and welfare. It hoped that the plan could be shared with the Member States that had concerns about the post-Ebola period.

59. Mauritania paid tribute to Liberia's promotion and protection of human rights despite the difficulties faced. It welcomed Liberia's cooperation with the special procedures, and the fight against harmful traditional practices, urging Liberia to eradicate these. Mauritania made a recommendation.

60. Mexico appreciated the development of the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation, and the policy on consolidating peace and national reconciliation. It welcomed the inclusion in Liberia's development agenda of a segment on

social issues relating to human rights, vulnerable groups and inequality. Mexico made recommendations.

61. Montenegro commended Liberia's dealing with Ebola, and underlined the importance of reducing inequalities in health-care services. It welcomed the institutional and strategic framework for human rights and the Children's Law. It expressed concern regarding sexual and gender-based violence, discrimination and female genital mutilation, enquiring about how successfully Liberia had addressed this. Montenegro made recommendations.

62. Ethiopia commended Liberia on its launching of a strategy for development, on its establishment of national human rights institutions and on the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation. Ethiopia encouraged Liberia to further strengthen efforts to tackle poverty. Ethiopia made recommendations.

63. Namibia noted Liberia's efforts to recover from the effects of civil war and from the Ebola outbreak. It expressed its congratulations for "Liberia Rising 2030", the Agenda for Transformation, and the Strategic Roadmap for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation. Namibia made recommendations.

64. Nepal noted measures taken since the first review to implement the pledges and recommendations, describing Liberia's achievements, in spite of the challenges, as impressive. It listed the steps taken towards strengthening Liberia's human rights regime. Nepal made recommendations.

65. The Netherlands commended the handling of the Ebola outbreak, and counted on Liberia to ensure that survivors could peacefully return to their villages. It noted the efforts made to strengthen women's rights and to end violence against women. It remained concerned about the limited space for civil society. The Netherlands made recommendations.

66. The Niger noted the efforts made to follow up on the recommendations from the first review, despite a difficult context. It congratulated Liberia on strengthening the framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, urging it to continue those efforts and to strengthen the capacities of the judiciary.

67. Nigeria commended Liberia on establishing the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and the Independent Information Commission. It noted Liberia's continued engagement with the universal periodic review process. Nigeria called on OHCHR to continue to engage with Liberia for the strengthening of institutions.

68. Norway commended the efforts made in combating the Ebola outbreak, acknowledging that the crisis had delayed political processes. It noted the challenge of a weak justice and security sector and supported the plan for a national takeover of responsibility for security from the United Nations Mission in Liberia, but was concerned about national capacity. Norway made recommendations.

69. The Philippines commended Liberia's National Human Rights Action Plan, as well as the steps taken towards ratifying international human rights treaties and harmonizing domestic laws with human rights obligations. It remained concerned about domestic violence, harmful traditional practices and trafficking. The Philippines made recommendations.

70. Poland welcomed the legislation on the protection of children. It was concerned about the insufficient measures taken to eliminate violence against children, the reports of discrimination against and harassment of members of minorities and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) activists. Poland made recommendations.

71. Portugal welcomed the launching of the national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 and the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights. Portugal made recommendations.

72. The Republic of Korea highlighted the establishment of the Constitutional Review Committee. It noted efforts to reform the justice and security sectors and to improve prison conditions. The Republic of Korea made recommendations.

73. Rwanda commended Liberia on holding peaceful elections, on the launching of the "Liberia Rising 2030" national strategy, and on its efforts to address the Ebola epidemic. Rwanda urged the international community to provide Liberia with support to address challenges facing the country. Rwanda made recommendations.

74. Senegal welcomed the efforts of Liberia to implement the National Human Rights Action Plan, to establish the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and to combat sexual and domestic violence, as well as its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Senegal made recommendations.

75. Sierra Leone commended Liberia on its efforts to address the human rights situation. Sierra Leone noted Liberia's commitment to implementing it. human rights obligations but at the same time noted the lack of resources for this task and stressed the need for technical assistance to be provided to Liberia. Sierra Leone made recommendations.

76. Singapore noted the implementation of the Agenda for Transformation and the National Human Rights Action Plan and observed that Liberia had strengthened its policies and legislation to combat sexual and gender-based violence. However, the incidence of such violence remained high. Singapore made recommendations.

77. Slovakia encouraged Liberia to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It commended the new National Human Rights Action Plan and national human rights institutions. Slovakia highlighted the need to address challenges, which included violence against women and the protection of human rights defenders, as well as challenges in the judiciary. Slovakia made recommendations.

78. Slovenia remained concerned about the reports of violations of the rights of the child, which included violence against children and the sexual abuse of children, and about the high rate of sexual and gender-based violence. It made recommendations.

79. South Africa noted some achievements made in human rights despite the challenges that the country faced. South Africa called for providing Liberia with additional support so that it could address the Ebola epidemic. South Africa encouraged Liberia to continue all efforts towards the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights. South Africa made recommendations.

80. Spain recognized the efforts made by Liberia to manage the Ebola outbreak. It welcomed the moratorium on executions. It expressed concern about excessive use of preventive detention and about the lack of food and of proper hygiene in prisons. It made recommendations.

81. Sudan noted that despite the challenges that Liberia had faced in recent years, it had enjoyed a number of notable achievements, such as the launching of the National Human Rights Action Plan. It made recommendations.

82. Sweden noted that despite some measures by the Government, there remained a high incidence of sexual and gender-based violence, and that female genital mutilation continued to be practised. It welcomed the de facto moratorium on executions. Sweden made recommendations.

83. While welcoming the ratification of several human rights instruments by Liberia, Switzerland noted that it had failed so far to transpose its international obligations to the national level. Switzerland made recommendations.

84. Thailand noted the National Human Rights Action Plan and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Thailand encouraged Liberia to review its legislation to ensure its conformity with international human rights obligations. Thailand was concerned by the lack of health-care services in rural areas and by regional disparities in health care. It was concerned about cases of sexual offences against children. It made recommendations.

85. Timor-Leste commended Liberia for the efforts made to promote the rights of women. However, it was concerned about cases of sexual violence against women. It made recommendations.

86. Togo welcomed the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan and the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations that had been accepted by Liberia, as well as the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It made recommendations.

87. Trinidad and Tobago noted the fast-growing economy of Liberia and the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty. It made recommendations.

88. Tunisia noted the progress made, inter alia, in implementing the wide-ranging development strategy and the National Human Rights Action Plan. Tunisia encouraged Liberia to include human rights in its new Constitution. Tunisia urged OHCHR to respond positively to the request by Liberia for technical assistance. It made recommendations.

89. Turkey commended Liberia for developing various human rights strategies and action plans in spite of the various challenges that the country faced. It encouraged the Government to take measures to protect and promote human rights. It made recommendations.

90. Uganda noted the achievements of Liberia in establishing the necessary framework for the protection and promotion of human rights in spite of many challenges. Uganda called upon the international community to support Liberia in building its capacity in various sectors, including the judiciary and the police. Uganda made recommendations.

91. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the Investment Plan for Building a Resilient Health System in Liberia, as a prevention plan. It urged Liberia to ensure that freedom of religion was protected in the constitutional review process. It made recommendations.

92. The United States of America commended Liberia for holding successful elections in the context of the high demands of combating the Ebola epidemic. It was concerned about pervasive gender-based violence against women, and that the worst forms of child labour were occurring in agriculture and mining. It made recommendations.

93. Uruguay welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and noted the adoption of a national strategy for its implementation as well as the inclusion of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in its legislation. It made recommendations.

94. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged Liberia's efforts in fulfilling its human rights obligations, which had included the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the improvement of its legislation. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela urged the international community to provide Liberia with the

necessary support for it to continue its efforts. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a recommendation.

95. Cabo Verde noted that, in Liberia, the weight of traditional practices was very heavy and represented a major constraint to the Government's will and action. It called on the international community to assist Liberia in the promotion of human rights. Cabo Verde made recommendations.

96. The delegation of Liberia welcomed the recommendations made during the review. Liberia had taken firm measures to adhere to the principles enshrined in international human rights instruments. While some improvement had been made in the areas of policy formulation and programmes to improve the promotion and protection of human rights, the delegation recognized that some actions still needed to be taken to address the issues raised during the present session of the Working Group. Those issues included the high levels of sexual and gender-based violence, especially child rape, the need to build investigative capacity in the law enforcement services and the judiciary, the high levels of pretrial detention, the need to review domestic legislation to bring it into line with Liberia's human rights obligations, and the need to address the backlog in treaty reporting.

97. The delegation stated that Liberia was committed to protecting the rights of Ebola survivors and orphans, and to improving the health-care system in the wake of the Ebola epidemic.

98. The delegation was pleased to inform States that human rights had been taken into consideration in the work of the Constitutional Review Committee, which was currently ongoing. As part of that process, issues of human rights had been addressed, including the right to equality and non-discrimination, the rights of women in marriage as well as special measures and provisions to guarantee their inheritance rights, protection of the rights of the child, protection against all forms of violence, the need for equal participation of men and women, and the need to use language that is inclusive of both genders.

99. In conclusion, the delegation expressed again Liberia's commitment to meeting its international human rights obligations. Liberia looked forward to working with the Human Rights Council and other international bodies as it continued to move forward with its implementation of human rights measures. The recommendations made by the delegations would be given due consideration by the Government of Liberia, including by the representatives who were not able to be present for the review, and would be incorporated into the National Human Rights Action Plan.

II. Conclusions and recommendations[**]

100. **The following recommendations will be examined by Liberia, which will provide responses in due time but no later than the 30th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2015:**

100.1 **Become a party to the main human rights instruments (Chad);**

100.2 **Continue the ratification of international instruments to which the country is not yet a party, in particular those relating to human rights (Côte d'Ivoire);**

100.3 **Finalize the ratification process of relevant international conventions to which the country is not yet a party (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

[**] The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

100.4 **Sign and ratify the regional and international instruments to which the State is not yet a party (Madagascar);**

100.5 **Step up its efforts towards the ratification of other human rights conventions, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**

100.6 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal) (Sierra Leone);**

100.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Spain);**

100.8 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Timor-Leste) (Tunisia) (Uruguay);**

100.9 **Ratify the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Iraq) (Portugal) (Uruguay);**

100.10 **Ratify the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sudan);**

100.11 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Estonia) (Poland);**

100.12 **Ratify the three optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovakia);**

100.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, signed in 2004, and implement the necessary domestic measures for its implementation (Brazil);**

100.14 **Accelerate the ratification of the range of international human rights instruments accepted at the universal periodic review in 2010, particularly the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Cabo Verde);**

100.15 **Continue efforts to guarantee the rights of children, including the ratification and implementation of the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Liberia has signed (France);**

100.16 **Continue its efforts to take legislative measures for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child, by expediting the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Indonesia);**

100.17 **Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);**

100.18 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Montenegro) (Portugal) (Tunisia) (Sierra Leone);**

100.19 **Redouble efforts to ensure the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and**

Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ghana);

100.20 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**

100.21 **Continue its process towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);**

100.22 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mali) (Uruguay);**

100.23 **Amend its Constitution to abolish the death penalty (Australia);**

100.24 **Speed up its constitutional reforms to abolish the death penalty (Congo);**

100.25 **Abolish de jure the death penalty (Montenegro);**

100.26 **Abolish the death penalty it has reintroduced in law (Germany);**

100.27 **Conduct the constitutional reform necessary for the abolition of the death penalty (Spain);**

100.28 **Consider abolishing the death penalty (Rwanda);**

100.29 **Formally establish a moratorium on the application of the death penalty as a step towards full abolition of it (Togo);**

100.30 **Continue the de facto moratorium on the death penalty and further take steps towards its legal abolition (Nepal);**

100.31 **Continue the moratorium on the death penalty and move towards its elimination (Costa Rica);**

100.32 **Full abolition of capital punishment in all cases and circumstances (Portugal);**

100.33 **Remove the paragraph prescribing the death penalty as legal punishment by law (Norway);**

100.34 **Consider the repeal of the law that allows for the death penalty and introduce a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to total abolishment in line with Liberia's obligations under the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia);**

100.35 **Review the national legislation to bring it into conformity with international human rights instruments, in particular with the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Switzerland);**

100.36 **Abolish the death penalty (Uruguay);**

100.37 **Abolish the death penalty in legislation in order to respect the obligations arising from the ratification of the second Optional Protocol by Liberia (France);**

100.38 **Fully abolish the death penalty, in accordance with the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Italy);**

100.39 **Repeal legislation which allows for the death penalty, in line with Liberia's commitments under the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

100.40 **Analyse the possibility of abolishing the death penalty (Argentina);**

100.41 **Take steps toward the abolition of the death penalty (South Africa);**

100.42 **Abolish the death penalty and commute without delay all death sentences to terms of imprisonment (Sweden);**

100.43 **Conclude the process of revision of its Constitution and national legislation so as to guarantee that they are compatible with regional and international human rights instruments to which the country is a State party (Mexico);**

100.44 **Ensure that the revision of the Constitution is firmly based on human rights and complies with international human rights standards (Czech Republic);**

100.45 **Strengthen its efforts to end discrimination against women by incorporating the principle of equality into the Constitution in the context of its constitutional review (Germany);**

100.46 **Incorporate the principle of equality between women and men into the Constitution, and seek to combat gender-based discrimination, in particular against girls in rural areas, especially as regards access to education and social services and their right to property and security (Egypt);**

100.47 **Provide the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women with information on the steps taken to incorporate a definition of discrimination against women in appropriate national legislation and on the incorporation of the principle of equality between men and women in the Constitution (Ghana);**

100.48 **Strengthen its efforts to combat sexual violence by adopting a legal framework to address violence against women and by incorporating the principle of equality between women and men into the Constitution (Timor-Leste);**

100.49 **Foster harmonization of its domestic legislation with its international obligations (Djibouti);**

100.50 **Bring its domestic legislation fully into line with international human rights instruments (Madagascar);**

100.51 **Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**

100.52 **Bring domestic legislation into line to cooperate with the International Criminal Court (Costa Rica);**

100.53 **Undertake a comprehensive review of pertinent domestic legislation to ensure full conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Egypt);**

100.54 **Swiftly establish a national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ratified in 2004 and speed up**

the process of incorporation of provisions of other ratified international human rights instruments into national legislation (Czech Republic);

100.55 **Repeal all laws and policies that discriminate against human rights defenders (Australia);**

100.56 **Bring its legal and policy framework in line with its international obligations, including the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, by repealing all laws and policies that restrict the rights and activities of human rights defenders, including defamation and libel laws (Netherlands);**

100.57 **Accelerate the adoption of the Domestic Violence Act (Benin);**

100.58 **Put in place measures that ensure and protect the family as a natural nucleus of society and provide a family-friendly environment for the children in Liberia (Uganda);**

100.59 **Guarantee women the same right as men to transmit their nationality to their children, in particular by deleting Section 20.1 (b) of Part III of the "Law on Immigration and Nationality" (Switzerland);**

100.60 **Adopt a law that explicitly prohibits female genital mutilation (Uruguay);**

100.61 **Adopt laws to forbid harmful traditional practices (Madagascar);**

100.62 **Enact legislation and increase awareness-raising prohibiting female genital mutilation (Sweden);**

100.63 **Fast-track the enactment of its Domestic Violence Act, criminalize female genital mutilation, enforce laws that protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation, and prosecute and punish complicit officials (Australia);**

100.64 **Build the capacity of existing institutions and sexual and gender-based violence units to monitor in particular violence against women — including sexual violence and female genital mutilation/cutting — in order to prevent violence, protect victims and fully gather evidence, investigate and prosecute these crimes (Finland);**

100.65 **Enhance efforts to fight all forms of discrimination against women and domestic violence, including by adopting new legislation to this effect and ensuring its effective implementation (Italy);**

100.66 **Modify its legislation on nationality so as to guarantee equal rights for men and women with respect to the handing down of nationality to their children and spouses (Mexico);**

100.67 **Further empower its Special Court on Rape and Other Forms of Violence, enforce the laws against female genital mutilation and increase its efforts to create national public awareness programmes about sexual and gender-based violence (Netherlands);**

100.68 **Strengthen the units for the protection of women and children, granting these the necessary capacity to gather all evidence and investigate all cases of sexual and gender-based violence (Uruguay);**

100.69 **Improve the access to justice for victims of sexual and gender-based violence, enhance the capacity of the police to investigate cases of sexual and gender-based violence and enact the relevant legislation, including the Domestic Violence Act (Slovenia);**

100.70 **Strengthen its enforcement of domestic laws that protect children from sexual abuses and exploitation, expedite the investigation of reported cases, and bring the perpetrators to justice (Thailand);**

100.71 **That a comprehensive prevention strategy together with adequate legislation be introduced to combat the high incidence of sexual and gender-based violence (Trinidad and Tobago);**

100.72 **Implement provisions in the National Human Rights Action Plan for the protection of vulnerable individuals, including children, persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, LGBT persons, and persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

100.73 **Ensure that all relevant laws, codified and customary, are brought into compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and ensure strict application of the Children's Law (Slovenia);**

100.74 **Enact and effectively implement legislation and take other policy and program measures to fulfil treaty obligations to eliminate the worst forms of child labour (United States of America);**

100.75 **Amend discriminatory provisions based on sexual orientation or gender identity, in particular with regard to equality of access to services and public office (Uruguay);**

100.76 **Consider decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations (Brazil);**

100.77 **Repeal the legal provisions which criminalize LGBT persons (France);**

100.78 **Revoke the law criminalizing consensual sex between adults of the same sex (Poland);**

100.79 **Repeal the existing discriminatory regulation in its domestic law against the LGBT community (Spain);**

100.80 **Repeal 14.74 of the Penal Code and take all necessary legislative and other measures to eliminate discrimination and violence on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity (Ireland);**

100.81 **Repeal sections of the Penal Code that criminalize sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex and withdraw the two bills currently before the House of Representatives that would further criminalize same-sex relations (Canada);**

100.82 **Take legislative and policy measures to prevent and fight violence and to combat discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity (Colombia);**

100.83 **Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights established in 2011, the Ministry of Justice and the judiciary (Costa Rica);**

100.84 **Provide the Independent National Commission on Human Rights with adequate resources to assist it in discharging its core mandate (Egypt);**

100.85 **Take the necessary measures to ensure that the Independent National Human Rights Commission fully complies with the Paris Principles (France);**

100.86 **Boost the investigative capacity of the National Independent Human Rights Commission and ensure full participation by civil society in its work (Mexico);**

100.87 **Strengthen the capacity of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, providing it with the necessary means to allow it to coordinate human rights monitoring, investigation and field activities (Portugal);**

100.88 **Take necessary measures to develop internal governance procedures in order that the Independent National Commission on Human Rights could perform its mandated role, in particular by ensuring adequate funding for the Commission (Republic of Korea);**

100.89 **Give continuity to the strengthening of national human rights institutions and mechanisms (Nepal);**

100.90 **Continue strengthening the capacity of government institutions on human rights and the application of a human rights-based approach (Sudan);**

100.91 **Continue efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights within the framework of the National Human Rights Action Plan established since 2013 (Algeria);**

100.92 **Continue strengthening the institutional capacity in the human rights sector in the country, particularly through promotion, dissemination and human rights education in the various national institutions, and establish follow-up mechanisms for human rights recommendations (Colombia);**

100.93 **Continue strengthening the capacity of government institutions, including the judiciary, police, prison service and government ministries, on the application of a human rights-based approach (Zimbabwe);**

100.94 **Strengthen support measures for vulnerable persons (Angola);**

100.95 **Strengthen protection measures for children and vulnerable persons (Senegal);**

100.96 **Take effective measures to implement the provisions in the National Human Rights Action Plan concerning the protection of vulnerable groups, especially concerning the fight against sexual violence against women and girls (China);**

100.97 **Strengthen legislative provisions that exist to promote gender equality (Equatorial Guinea);**

100.98 **Continue with the measures aimed at promoting and protecting effectively in law and in practice the human rights of women (Colombia);**

100.99 **Implement a human rights training programme and the necessary legal reforms to avoid the practice of female genital mutilation (Costa Rica);**

100.100 **Implement the awareness-raising programme to fight against domestic violence against women and girls (Switzerland);**

100.101 **Set up a mechanism to fight more effectively discrimination against women, prevent and punish sexual and gender-based violence, ban female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional practices and effectively enforce the ban while stepping up the fight against these practices through public-awareness campaigns (Czech Republic);**

100.102 **With regard to the rule of law, launch informative programmes to raise awareness of anti-corruption mechanisms, such as the Professional Standard Division, as well as increase the funding of such institutions (Germany);**

100.103 **Develop Human Rights Indicators, an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of the human rights policies of a country (Portugal);**

100.104 **Continue its efforts to raise public awareness of human rights (Sudan);**

100.105 **Submit overdue reports to the relevant United Nations treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);**

100.106 **Submit the initial report to the Committee against Torture, as well as all due reports to other treaty bodies (Togo);**

100.107 **Issue standing invitations to all special procedures (Ghana);**

100.108 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures, as accepted during the first cycle of the universal periodic review of Liberia, as previously recommended (Latvia);**

100.109 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures in order to improve its cooperation with the international community in the field of human rights (Turkey);**

100.110 **Step up its cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests of the special procedures mandate holders without delay (Latvia);**

100.111 **Strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Tunisia);**

100.112 **Continue to work with the United Nations Mission in Liberia and other partners to prepare for the national takeover, including concrete measures to reduce gender-based violence and to strengthen the justice and security sectors (Norway);**

100.113 **Continue to engage the international community for assistance in addressing the menace of domestic violence, harmful traditional practices and trafficking in persons (Philippines);**

100.114 **Continue to strengthen the capacity of domestic institutions to combat sexual and gender-based violence, including through cooperation with the international community (Singapore);**

100.115 **Put an end to the widespread gender discrimination which particularly affects girls living in rural areas (Congo);**

100.116 **Eliminate all forms of discrimination, particularly against children in vulnerable situations (Ghana);**

100.117 **Eliminate all forms of discrimination particularly against vulnerable children (Congo);**

100.118 **Take steps to harmonize her nationality laws in order to provide women with the right to pass on their rights of nationality to children born abroad, on an equal basis with men (Kenya);**

100.119 **Do more to fight discrimination against Liberian women by allowing them to transmit their nationalities to their children and their spouses (Senegal);**

100.120 **Combat discrimination and all types of violence against women in the country, and multiply efforts for the empowerment of women in every area of life (Turkey);**

100.121 **Condemn discrimination, particularly that based on sexual orientation and identity (Madagascar);**

100.122 **Ensure to LGBTI persons the full enjoyment and equal treatment of their human rights by derogating norms that criminalize and stigmatize them (Argentina);**

100.123 **Combat all forms of discrimination and abuse against LGBTI persons (Italy);**

100.124 **Put forward more efforts to protect victims of Ebola and seek solutions for the human rights concerns arising from discrimination and stigmatization of patients, victims, survivors and health workers (Republic of Korea);**

100.125 **Further improve the birth registration system and support it by awareness-raising activities, in order to boost the registration numbers (Turkey);**

100.126 **Fight the increased rate of persons subjected to sexual and gender-based violence (Angola);**

100.127 **Intensify efforts to ensure gender equality and eliminate gender-based violence (Botswana);**

100.128 **Continue its efforts to fight against violence against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, and adopt legislation criminalizing this harmful practice (Canada);**

100.129 **Intensify efforts to ensure gender equality and eliminate gender-based violence, including sexual violence and harmful traditional practices (Estonia);**

100.130 **Fight female genital mutilation and early marriage (Angola);**

100.131 **Continue to combat violence against women, particularly female genital mutilation and sexual violence, ensure that this violence is always prosecuted, and continue to organize awareness-raising campaigns on this issue (France);**

100.132 **Intensify efforts to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence and to specifically criminalize female genital mutilation as well as to take all necessary measures to ensure its eradication (Ireland);**

100.133 **Continue working to combat child, early and forced marriage, to legally prohibit female genital mutilations and to increase support to girls from the poorest households and rural areas who are reportedly more at risk of being subject to these practices (Italy);**

100.134 **Take further effective measures to address the continued high crime rates in the areas of sexual violence against women and the trafficking of women and children (Japan);**

100.135 **Significantly step up its efforts in addressing the reportedly high number of rape cases, particularly against young victims, and gender-based violence (Latvia);**

100.136 **Continue to make traditional communities aware of the consequences in terms of human rights abuses of harmful traditional practices (Mauritania);**

100.137 **Continue combating female genital mutilation (Ethiopia);**

100.138 **Continue to criminalize and ultimately eradicate sexual and gender-based violence such as female genital mutilation and harmful traditional practices, including trials by ordeal (Republic of Korea);**

100.139 **Intensify efforts towards the total eradication of female genital mutilation (Rwanda);**

100.140 **Strengthen efforts on combating sexual and gender-based violence as well as female genital mutilation (South Africa);**

100.141 **Increase the efforts by the Ministry of the Interior to combat the practice of female genital mutilation, particularly in rural areas, preventing and prosecuting criminally this practice (Spain);**

100.142 **Ensure the full enjoyment of human rights by women and girls, including through public awareness-raising and measures to improve investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence (Sweden);**

100.143 **Further intensify its efforts to promote gender equality and to combat gender-based violence, including the rapes of minors and the most frequently reported cases of sexual and gender-based violence (Switzerland);**

100.144 **Ensure that perpetrators of gender-specific violence and rape of minors are held accountable for their actions and improve the access to health services and economic assistance for victims (Switzerland);**

100.145 **Increase public awareness campaigns against female genital mutilation (Timor-Leste);**

100.146 **Criminalize female genital mutilation or cutting and spousal rape, and increase the number of public awareness campaigns focused on preventing violence against women and girls, with particular emphasis on rape, domestic violence, and female genital mutilation or cutting (United States of America);**

100.147 **Systematically pursue current initiatives to change harmful practices against women and children, in particular female genital mutilation and early marriage (Cabo Verde);**

100.148 **Eliminate all forms of child labour (Benin);**

100.149 **Take all necessary measures to abolish corporal punishment for children at all institutions, including alternative care settings (Namibia);**

100.150 **Deepen the national dialogue to establish an accountability mechanism for human rights violations committed in the past (Argentina);**

100.151 **Strengthen the judicial and law enforcement system and eliminate corruption (China);**

100.152 **Investigate and prosecute police misconduct, in accordance with international standards, and strengthen institutional capacities to fight against corruption among police officials (Slovakia);**

100.153 **Continue and increase efforts to reduce impunity for those responsible for embezzlement of public money (Norway);**

100.154 **Continue to intensify efforts to strengthen the rule of law and the criminal justice system by developing the capacity of the judicial, legal and security sectors (Singapore);**

100.155 **Take all necessary measures to improve court proceedings to guarantee the right of detainees to a fair trial within a reasonable time (Slovakia);**

100.156 **Take the appropriate measures to improve the conditions of detainees, in particular those awaiting trial (Spain);**

100.157 **Implement alternative measures to deprivation of liberty in cases involving minors, and when they are deprived of their liberty afford them all necessary guarantees (Spain);**

100.158 **Further enhance Liberia's legal system to promote effective and smooth judicial procedure (Japan);**

100.159 **Strengthen the judicial system in order to ensure respect for due process, and reform the system of pre-trial detention (Czech Republic);**

100.160 **Continue judicial reform to improve access to justice by promoting better coverage throughout the country and by updating its prison system (Morocco);**

100.161 **Assure the sustainability of the regional justice and security hubs and that they are clearly taken into account in the budgeting process and included in the final national budget for 2016 (Finland);**

100.162 **Pursue judicial reform, especially to improve access to justice and to fight the inappropriate use of preventive detention (France);**

100.163 **Continue investing in women's empowerment and promoting their participation in all aspects of the State machinery (Nepal);**

100.164 **Continue the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to foster national harmony (Senegal);**

100.165 **Reinforce efforts to improve the standard of living of all Liberians (Zimbabwe);**

100.166 **Continue its efforts to guarantee the best implementation of the 2012 long-term, comprehensive strategy for development (Libya);**

100.167 **Ensure the effective implementation of the right to development by strengthening local capacity (Ethiopia);**

100.168 **Increase its efforts to improve the living standards of its population and particularly the access to health care, education, work and safe drinking water (Togo);**

100.169 **Establish a regulatory framework for monitoring the activities of multinational companies operating in the country to ensure rights to development (Uganda);**

100.170 **Continue strengthening its social programmes to improve the living conditions of its people, particularly the most excluded, with the cooperation and technical assistance that is requested by the country (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

100.171 **Implement programmes focused on employability, entrepreneurship and microfinance to make sure that young people find it easier to join the labour market (Morocco);**

100.172 **Enhance and expand its health-care system to cover the whole country (Thailand);**

100.173 **Continue efforts in the field of health in the framework of the National Health and Social Welfare Policy and Plan (2011–2021) (Algeria);**

100.174 **Establish a follow-up mechanism for the National Health and Social Welfare Policy and Plan (2011–2021) (Equatorial Guinea);**

100.175 **Put in place an accessible health-care system and consider applying the Technical Guidance on preventable mortality and morbidity of children under the age of 5 years, which was developed by the World Health Organization (Botswana);**

100.176 **Improve the population's access to health with the support of the international community, in accordance with its national interests (Cuba);**

100.177 **Continue to improve access to basic health-care services, especially for antenatal care and patients affected by HIV and the Ebola virus (Trinidad and Tobago);**

100.178 **Take actions to lessen the economic and social effects which have been the outcome of the Ebola epidemic (Cuba);**

100.179 **Intensify efforts to seek necessary funding to address economic and social rights, in the wake of the Ebola crisis (Sierra Leone);**

100.180 **Strengthen efforts towards the realization of the rights to education and the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health in the post-Ebola recovery period (South Africa);**

100.181 **Increase children's access to the education system (Angola);**

100.182 **Step up efforts to improve the functioning of the education system to make it easier for all children, including children with disabilities, to have access to education (Congo);**

100.183 **Intensify its efforts to eradicate illiteracy, especially among women and girls (Latvia);**

100.184 **Secure equal rights for boys and girls in the education system and put in place targeted measures to reduce the high dropout rates of girls from high schools (Norway);**

100.185 **That a strategic plan be implemented to ensure that all schools and educational institutions are reopened in the near future (Trinidad and Tobago);**

100.186 **Strengthen the national bodies responsible for ensuring the protection of persons with disability against all forms of violations that they may be subjected to and promote their full integration into society (Côte d'Ivoire).**

101. **All conclusions and recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State and the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Liberia was headed by H.E. Ms. Julia M. Duncan-Cassell, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and was composed of the following members:

- Ms. Sarah Gibson, Legal Consultant, Human Rights Unit, Ministry of Justice
- Mr. Tate, Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Liberia in Geneva
- Mr. Abraham Kamara, Legal Officer, Permanent Mission of Liberia in Geneva